Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A water dispenser valve assembly for a refrigerator having a water line in fluid communication to a source of ~~fluid~~ water, the valve assembly comprising:

a tube fluidly connected to the water line by a barb fitting connection at one end and connected to a dispensing nozzle at an opposing end, said tube defining a fluid passageway therein from the line to ~~the~~ a dispensing port; and

means for selectively opening and closing the fluid passageway in the tube, wherein the barb fitting connection includes a barb fitting, a collet and a sleeve, the collet engageable over one end of the barb fitting and tube, and the sleeve having a through center aperture for receiving the collet.

2. (Original) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim 1, wherein the means for selectively opening and closing the fluid passageway includes a spring mechanism having a leaf spring connected to a pinching member, wherein the leaf spring biases the pinching member to pinch the tube for closing the passageway.

3. (Original) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim 2, wherein the means for selectively opening the fluid passageway further includes a pivot member communicating with the spring mechanism for opening the fluid passageway

4. (Original) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim 3, further comprising an actuator accessible to a user, said actuator operable to activate the pivot member.

5. (Currently Amended) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim 1, wherein the tube is covered by a snug fit ~~Kevlar®~~ sock made of a woven

material of polyamide fiber having high tensile strength and a greater resistance of elongation than steel to protect the tube from abrasion and excess pressure.

6. (Original) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim 2, wherein the leaf spring is retained within pockets to prevent excess erosion.

7. (Original) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim 5, wherein the tube is made of silicone for providing excellent characteristics.

8. (Original) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim 2, further comprising a housing having a pair of spaced parallel walls, wherein said parallel walls have pockets for securing ends of the leaf spring.

9. (Original) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim 2, wherein the spring mechanism includes a pinch member operably coupled to the leaf spring.

10. (Cancelled.)

11. (Currently Amended) The water dispenser valve assembly of claim ~~10~~ 1, wherein the collet has an exterior surface and an annular groove in the exterior surface proximate to a first end of the collet, and the exterior surface further has a plurality of ledges extending therefrom, wherein the ledges are positioned adjacent the annular groove for providing a stop for the sleeve.

12. (Cancelled.)

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ water dispenser assembly ~~of claim 12~~, for a refrigerant having a water line in fluid communication to a source of water, the valve assembly comprising:

a tube fluidly connected to the water line by a barb fitting connection at one end and connected to a dispensing nozzle at an opposing end, said tube defining a fluid passageway therein from the line to a dispensing port;

means for selectively opening and closing the fluid passageway in the tube; and

a bezel box having an open frame configuration for minimizing lateral movement of the tube, wherein the bezel box has an upper plate and lower plate and each plate has means for securing the bezel box within the assembly.

14. (Original) The water dispenser assembly of claim 13 wherein each plate has a through slot for receiving a portion of the tube therethrough.

15. (Original) The water dispenser assembly of claim 1, wherein the dispensing nozzle is integrally formed with a barb fitting, said barb fitting positioned at an opposing end from the nozzle.

16. (New) In a refrigerator water dispenser valve assembly having a water line in fluid communication to a source of water and connected to a tube at one end, the tube defining a fluid passageway therein, the tube fluidly connected to the water line by a barb fitting connection at the one end and connected to a dispensing nozzle at an opposing end, the improvement comprising a spring mechanism for selectively opening and closing the fluid passageway, said mechanism having a leaf spring connected to a pinching member, wherein the leaf spring is biased to close the fluid passageway by positioning a pinching member to pinch the tube.

17. (New) The improvement of claim 16, wherein the tube is covered by a snug fit sock made of an aromatic polyamide fiber having extremely high tensile strength and greater resistance of elongation than steel to protect the tube from abrasion and excess pressure.

18. (New) The improvement of claim 16 wherein the barb fitting connection includes a barb fitting, a collet and a sleeve, and the collet is engageable over one end of the barb fitting and tube, and the sleeve has a through center aperture for receiving the collet.

19. (New) The improvement of claim 16, wherein the barb fitting connection includes a collet and a sleeve, and the collet has resilient means for radically contracting around the tube to form a radial 360° compression around the tube when locked over the barb fitting connection by the sleeve.

20. (New) The water dispenser assembly of claim 13, wherein the barb fitting connection includes a collet and a sleeve, the collet having resilient means for radically contracting around the tube to form a radial 360° compression around the tube when locked over the barb fitting connection by the sleeve.